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Idioms related to drinking in English and Croatian

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## **Abstract**

In this paper, a selection of idioms related to drinking in English and Croatian are analysed. The aim is to analyse the similarity of the domain in the two languages; that is, how many of the idioms are readily translatable (have their equivalents) in the other language. A partially exhaustive list was compiled from various dictionaries of idioms which serves as a corpus which is further analysed. Furthermore, some examples which are either of cultural and/or grammatical significance are discussed and analysed in-depth. It is shown that English generally has a broader scope of idioms (concepts); but that Croatian has a larger variety of idioms for those concepts that are present in the language. Furthermore, it is often the case that English partial equivalents of Croatian idioms are not related to drinking at all. Croatian makes a much larger use of drinking as a conceptual metaphor to express various situations and states.

**Keywords:** phraseology, idioms, contrastive analysis, linguistics, translation

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## 1. Introduction

The aim of this paper is to compare and analyse Croatian and English idioms related to drinking. There are considerable differences between languages, especially when it comes to the usage of phraseological units. A theoretical overview of phraseological units and notes on methodology are introduced. A corpus of idioms related to drinking in both languages is compiled and their usage is analysed and contrasted. Focus is put on contrastive analysis. Examples from both languages are compared with their counterparts and analysed on basis of equivalence. Differences in usage of particular idioms are also noted, as well as differences in usage of this particular domain in respective languages as a whole.

### 1.1. *List of abbreviations*

This paper uses inline citations of dictionaries in form of abbreviations. The Appendices also follow the same abbreviation form. Complete references can be found in References section. The list of abbreviations is as follows.

OID – Oxford Dictionary of Idioms

RTL – Routledge Dictionary of Modern American Slang

HEFR – Hrvatsko-engleski frazeološki rječnik

HFR – Hrvatski frazeološki rječnik

HJP – Hrvatski jezični portal

CBD – Collins COBUILD Dictionary of English Idioms

MAT – Frazeološki rječnik hrvatskoga ili srpskoga jezika

DIO – Dictionary of Idioms and their Origins

BNC – British National Corpus<sup>1</sup>

HJK – Hrvatski jezični korpus

BDP – Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable

## 2. Theoretical Overview

### 2.1. *Phraseology*

Phraseology is defined both as a study of phraseological units, and a language's inventory of phrases and idioms (Fiedler 2007: 15). The latter term can also be named PHRASEOLOGY (or PHRASICON). To avoid confusion, unless otherwise noted, the term used in this paper will refer to the phraseology as the study of phrases and idioms, and not as phrases and idioms themselves.

Idioms, therefore, are considered to be a part of a wider area of the lexicon named phraseology or phrasicon.

### 2.2. *Phraseological unit*

The most basic definition of a phraseological unit states that it is a polylexemic item; that is, an item consisted of two or more words. (Fiedler 2007: 17) Compounds are usually not included in the definition of a phraseological unit; however, since this paper is concerned with idioms and idiomaticity, an exception has been made (see Appendix 1: *a pick-me-up*). Phraseological units are relatively stable, in a sense that altering one part of it completely changes the meaning of the unit: being in *eighth heaven* is something completely different (in this case, meaningless) when compared to *seventh heaven*, a stable phraseological unit which roughly means 'a state of

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<sup>1</sup> Examples of usage taken from the British National Corpus (BNC) were obtained under the terms of the BNC End User Licence. Copyright in the individual texts cited resided with the original IPR holders. For information and licensing conditions relating to the BNC, please see the web site at <http://www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk>

extreme happiness'. The usage of phraseological units usually results in a more expressive text (*sweat blood* vs *work hard*, for example), but a text which is also more informal. They can also be used to convey a certain attitude, whether positive or negative. As stated above, the usage of phraseological units is not limited to idioms, even though they constitute a majority of all the phraseological units (Fiedler 2007: 23-24)

Phraseological units also express a number of TRANSFORMATIONAL DEFECTS. They often resist passivisation and other syntactic transformations. This is not a definite criterion, as some phraseological units are able to withstand such transformations more readily than others (Fiedler 2007: 26).

According to Mona Baker (2011: 67-68), there are five distinguishable characteristics that are particular to idioms:

- 1) a fixed word order
- 2) words cannot be deleted from them
- 3) words cannot be added to them
- 4) no word can be replaced with another word
- 5) their grammatical structure is fixed

It should be noted that Baker does not introduce the concept of a 'phraseological unit' in her work, but her treatment of idioms is in line with Fiedler and Gläser; as she defines idioms as non-transparent when compared to fixed expressions; with a caveat that she considers certain proverbs as non-idiomatic because they are transparent (*practice what you preach*, for example) (Baker 2011: 67-68).

### 2.3. Scope

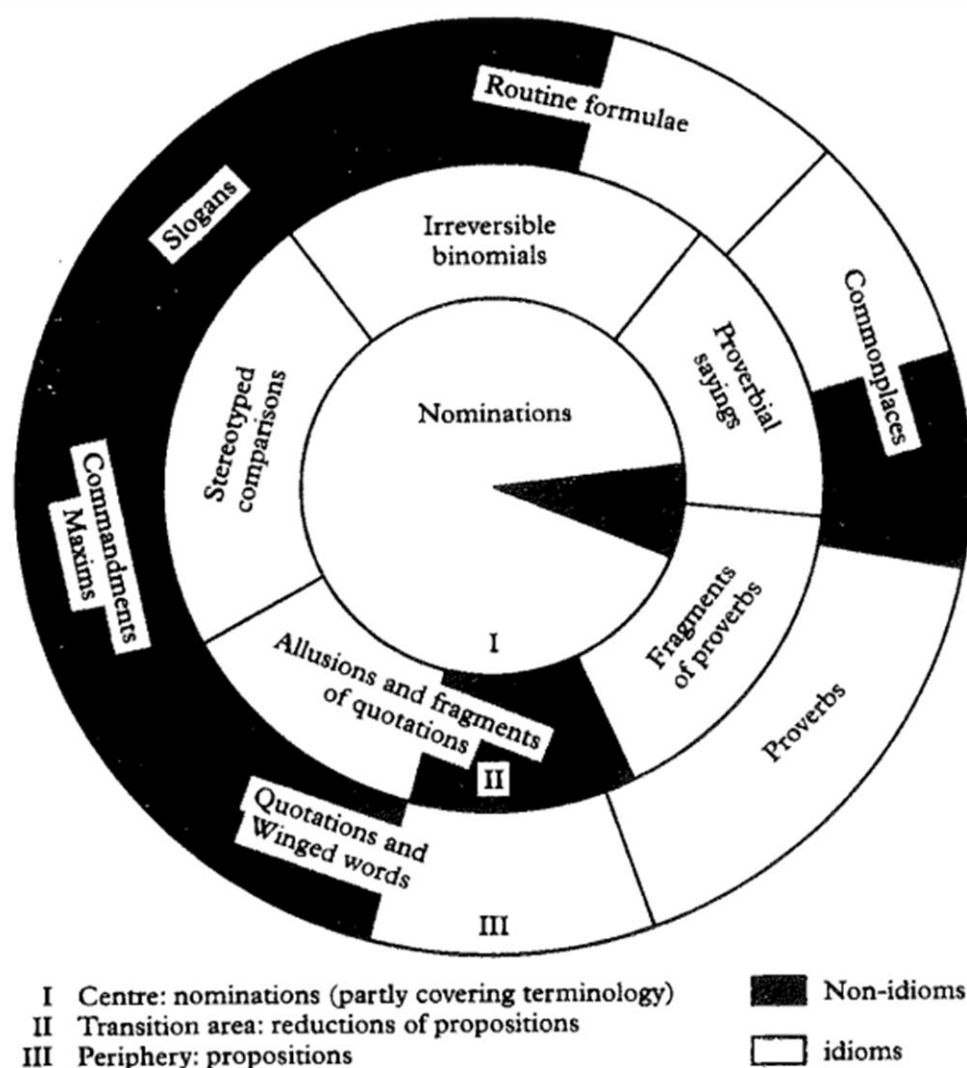


Figure 2: Gläser's phraseology system of Modern English (1998: 128)

**Figure 1:** Phraseology system of Modern English (Gläser 1998: 128)

As can be seen from Fig. 1, not all phraseological units are idiomatic, even though most are. This paper is concerned with idioms, nominations in particular. Nominations are the most common type of idiom and are what can be considered a prototype idiom. Nominations have a nominative function. They denote “objects, people, states, processes, or relations” (Fiedler 2007: 39). Stereotyped comparisons are also present in a large number (*as drunk as a lord*, for example). There is often a large variety of nouns that can be used in such comparisons, and dictionaries often list the most used forms (Fiedler 2007: 43)

## 2.4. Translation of idioms

Idioms (and phraseological units in general) are notoriously difficult to translate. Unlike the majority of other lexicographic elements, these usually cannot be translated verbatim. Direct equivalents between languages do exist, and are more common if the languages share a lot of similarities, but most often the translator will have to look for an idiom which carries the same meaning in their language in order to produce an appropriate translation. The former is a case of equivalence (*pogoditi žicu* = *strike a chord* (HEFR)), where both idioms share the same conceptual metaphor. In order for corresponding idioms to be considered full equivalents, word forms must also be identical as much as possible. Thus, if a noun in an idiom is singular in English but plural in Croatian, under this categorisation it would not be considered as a case of full equivalence. Note that “full equivalence, i.e. total correspondence in all possible parameters including frequency of use, does not seem realistic in two languages.” (Fiedler 2007: 118) The latter is an example of partial equivalence; in this case, an idiom which has the same meaning as the one in the source language exists, but is unrelated to it (*pada komu mrak na oči* = *see red* (HEFR)). There are cases of non-translatability, as well. In that case, the idiom from a source language simply cannot be expressed in the target language in any other way but simply providing a brief explanation (*trip the light fantastic* = *zaplesati*). This usually happens with culture-bound idioms, the concept of which can be absent in the other language. There are some examples of this in the paper, see §6.2.

Such a categorisation has been used in this paper: Phraseological units and their equivalents were sorted in one out of three categories. If the idioms correspond perfectly to one another, with no significant differences in form, except when unavoidable due to necessary language differences, such as articles, they were marked as “equivalent” in Appendix 1 and 2.

If there is a corresponding idiom in another language, but there are differences in form or it is unrelated to the idiom in the source language, it was marked as a case of “partial equivalence”. This is the case for most of the idioms. Idioms which are unique to one language and have no counterpart in the other language were marked as a case of “no equivalence”.

Fiedler (2007: 118) also mentions a distinct case of pseudo-equivalence, or false friends, in which an idiom appears to be a literal translation but has a different meaning than in the original. There are no such instances of pseudo-equivalent phraseological unit pairs in this paper.



### 3. Methodology

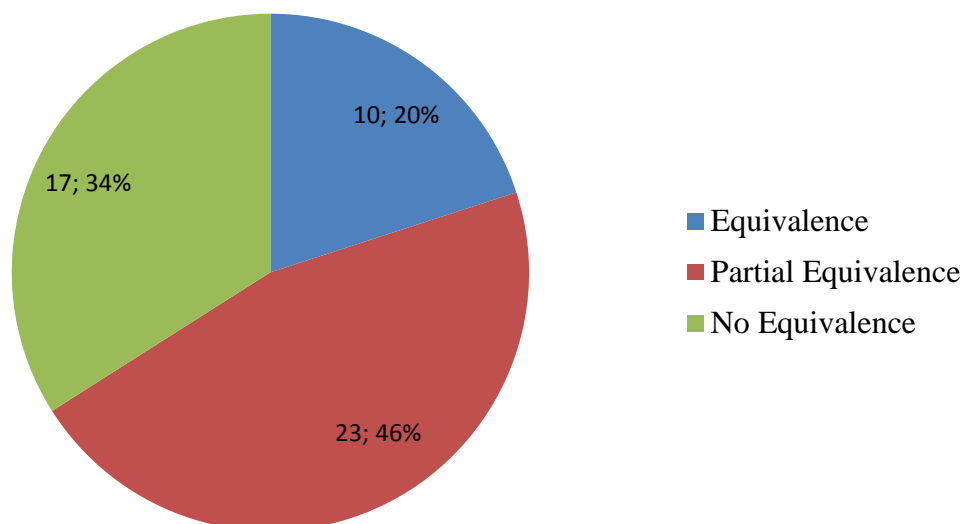
The list of dictionaries used can be found in the References section. With the exception of HEFR, all the other idioms were found in monolingual dictionaries of idioms, to prevent the possibility of the authors of bilingual dictionaries selecting only those idioms which are translatable. This would result in a flawed analysis, as no instances of non-equivalence could be found. While it cannot with certainty be claimed that the list is exhaustive, all the idioms in the dictionaries containing the keywords “drink” (and its grammatical forms, such as drunk), “glass”, “wine”, “beer” and “bottle” have been selected for use in the corpus. The procedure was the same for Croatian idioms. The list is exhaustive as well for Croatian phraseological units that contain words “piće”, “čaša”, “vino”, “pivo” and “boca” (with their corresponding forms).

The translations of idioms were taken from HEFR, unless otherwise noted. When the idiom was not listed in the dictionary, the author paraphrased it himself to best of his abilities. This is the case for examples with zero equivalence, as these, by definition, do not have a direct translation one could look up in a dictionary.

Example sentences were taken from dictionaries where the idiom was originally found. In absence of proper examples, BNC was consulted as a source. The same applies for Croatian idioms, in case of which HJK was consulted.

A list of total of 50 English and 35 Croatian idioms was compiled. Tables with raw data can be found in the Appendix.

#### 4. Key Findings



**Figure 2:** Translatability of English idioms. The first value is the number of instances; the value after the semicolon is the percentage (of total)

Figure 2 shows that about a third of English idioms in the corpus have no Croatian equivalent, about a half have a partially corresponding idiom while a fifth are direct equivalents. A fairly high degree of equivalence between English idioms and their Croatian counterparts may be due to the literal translations that have remained part of the language, but they might also have evolved independently. It cannot be said with certainty that idioms *dead drunk* and *mrtav pijan* did not occur independently. Croatian shares a lot of its phraseology with German. Due to cultural influences, phraseological units adapted from German are much more represented in Croatian. It cannot be excluded that some similarities between English and Croatian phraseological units are due to similarities shared between English and German, as Croatian historically adopted more of its phrasicon from German than English.

With the exception of cases of no equivalence, it was hypothesised that the Figures 2 and 3 (which show the percentages of English and Croatian idioms that have their equivalents in Croatian and English, respectively) would be roughly the same. This is generally the case. There is a large difference when it comes to the relations of equivalence. Because most of the idioms already analysed as equivalent in Appendix 1, those idioms were omitted in Appendix

2, so as to avoid unnecessary repetition. For example, *dead drunk* is mentioned in Appendix 1 but its Croatian counterpart (*mrtav pijan*) is not. The rationale is that the goal of the Croatian corpus was to determine whether there exist idioms that have no equivalent in English. It has been shown that such examples are generally very rare. Figure 3 shows that a small percentage of such phraseological units are unique to Croatian, which proves that English has a greater number of distinct idioms related to drinking than Croatian. That is, one can express their drunkenness in more ways in English than in Croatian. Still, the fact that most of the Croatian idioms have their equivalents, partial in most cases, in English, implies that English has a richer inventory of idioms. But, as most of English equivalents of Croatian idioms are partial, this shows that Croatian uses the drinking metaphor in more ways than English. This is further exemplified in §5.3.

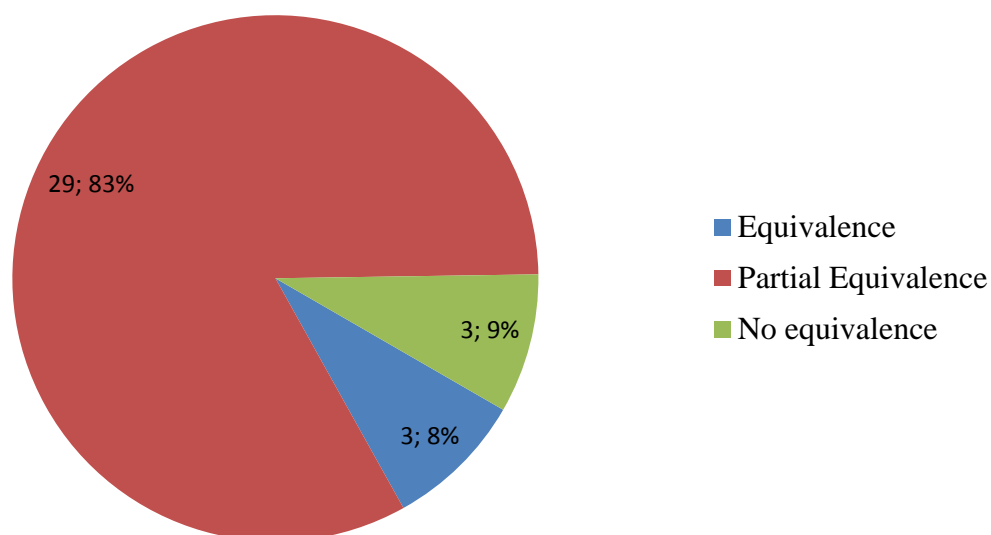


Figure 3: Croatian idioms and their English counterparts. The first value is the number of instances; the value after the semicolon is the percentage (of total).

## 5. Analysis of selected examples from the corpus

### 5.1. *Similes with 'drunk'*

There are two idiomatic similes that mean that one is extremely drunk; these are: *drunk as a lord* and *drunk as a skunk* (OID). Example sentence:

(1) 'I take it I can get drunk as a lord should on such an occasion?' (BNC: GWF 264)

The expression *drunk as a lord* comes from the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century habit of drinking as much as one can during dinner parties, especially in higher classes of society. (BDP: 309)

There are also similar examples that do not start with *drunk*: *tight as a tick* and *pissed as a fart* (OID). These can be used interchangeably:

(1a) I was pissed as a fart, thankyou, Jamie, and I just threw the lot at her. (BNC: AOL 3151)

It is interesting to note that in BNC there are no examples for *tight as a tick*, even though it is listed in OID.

In comparison, Croatian has a large variety of such similes that mean "jako pijan" (very drunk). These are *pijan kao: čep; bačva; duga; majka; lojtra; bačva; batina; čep; čuskija; drvo; duga; klen; lijevča; majka; zemlja; metla; panj; sjekira; smuk; svinja*. (HFR, MAT)  
Example sentence:

(2) Naravno da je bio crven u licu i pijan ko majka. (HFR)

While there are examples of more similes in English, these are not documented in dictionaries that have been referenced. There are 21 variations of this idiom in Croatian, but there is no reason not to include the finite forms such *napiti se kao marva; spužva, stoka; vreća; zemlja* (MAT) which would give a total of 26 idioms. This would imply that in Croatian there are more phraseological units that can be used to convey the state of being drunk than in English. While one could find more English forms, especially online, these are not documented in any of the dictionaries consulted; still, the same is the case for Croatian. The assumption is that these forms are generally less used because they are not listed in dictionaries.

## 5.2. *Unique idioms*

Certain idioms in English have no Croatian counterpart (and vice versa) and can only be explained in translation. These idioms have been classified as “unique” and are analysed in this section.

### (3) drink someone under the table (OID)

A paraphrase of this idiom is “consume more alcohol than your drinking companion without becoming as drunk”. In Croatian, the paraphrase “popiti više alkohola od nekoga” cannot be substituted with a phraseological unit. There is a similar PU, *pasti pod stol* (HJP), which literally means to “fall under the table as a result of heavy drinking”. There is an English equivalent, which is just *under the table*, with the first part omitted.

### (4) drink with the flies

To *drink with the flies* (OID) is to drink alone. Croatian does not have a special PU for this meaning.

### (5) pub crawl

A *pub crawl* is defined as “a tour taking in several pubs or drinking places, with one or more drinks at each (OID)”. There is no direct counterpart in Croatian, and it is usually either used as a paraphrase “Ići od kafića do kafića” or simply as a loanword. Example sentence:

(5a) And last month an 18-year-old student at Lady Margaret Hall college broke a leg and injured her spine when she fell out of a window after a pub crawl. (BNC: CBF 5895)

### (6) beer goggles

*Beer goggles* is a nomination used to refer to the supposed influence of alcohol on one's visual perception, whereby one is sexually attracted to people who would not otherwise be appealing (OID). In Croatian media, a recent trend is to translate the term literally, as “pivske naočale”, but it is not listed in any dictionary. Example sentence:

(6a) Aside from inappropriate vomiting and public urination, one of the most puzzling effects are "beer goggles" that accompany the latter stages of a bender. (RTL)

(7) A long drink of water

This idiom can roughly be paraphrased as “a tall, slender person”. There is no PU for the Croatian paraphrase “visoka, mršava osoba”.

(8) tired and emotional

This idiom is used to euphemistically state that a person was drunk. It has usually been used in the media to avoid lawsuits for defamation and libel. However, as the meaning of the euphemism caught on, its usage can be considered defamatory. There is no equivalent in Croatian.

(9) The panel sat mesmerized until it slowly began to dawn that the applicant appeared to be suffering from the old Fleet Street problem of being tired and emotional.

(10) prop up the bar

To *prop up the bar* means “to spend a lot of time drinking in a bar”. The Croatian paraphrase “provoditi puno vremena u kafiću” does not have an exact corresponding idiom, albeit a PU *od jutra do mraka* could be used. Note that this expression is non-idiomatic, so this idiom is marked as a case of non-equivalence. This Croatian expression can also be used in many other contexts; i.e. it is not restricted to drinking. One could say:

(11) On je običavao u divanu od jutra do mraka raditi, primati pohode, slušati molbe, rješavati tužbe itd. (HJK)

(12) krstiti vino (MAT)

The expression is not present in English. The paraphrase is “to mix wine with water”. This is a culture-bound phraseological unit, as this type of drink is not very popular in the United Kingdom. The name for such a drink in Croatian – *gemišt* – comes from German word *mischen* (to mix) (HJP).

(13) slip someone a Mickey Finn

The meaning of the expression is “to give someone a drugged or otherwise adulterated drink”. This expression was first recorded in 1920s. Its origin is not known, but reportedly came from the name of a Chicago barkeeper (OID: 177-178). Croatian has no idiomatic equivalent. It can only be rephrased as “ubaciti kome drogu u piće”. Example in usage:

(13a) And when they surfaced for air, she poured champagne and slipped a Mickey Finn into Kattina's glass. (BNC: FPX 540)

(14) walk the chalk

This idiom, which OID lists as “to have your sobriety tested” originates from the traditional method of determining one’s drunkenness, where a person would be made to walk on the chalked line without wobbling (OID 306). There is no idiomatic equivalent in Croatian, only a standard term “pristupiti alkotestu”.

### 5.3. *Idioms that are related to drinking in one language, but not in the other*

Croatian language idioms often use the conceptual metaphor of drinking as consuming or wasting, which appears to be absent from English.

There is only one example in the corpus of an English idiom which mentions drinking in English, but not in Croatian - *a long drink of water* (RTL).

(15) vladati se kao pijani milijunaš (HFR)

This idiom’s meaning is roughly “trošiti nemilice, bez razmišljanja”, which translates to “waste money, be careless with money”. The corresponding PUs are *more money than sense* and *throw money around*. These PUs are only partially equivalent at best. While both carry the same meaning as their Croatian counterpart, they are not related to drinking at all.

(15a) Misliš li da tvom ocu pada novac s neba, pa trošiš kao pijani milijunaš! (HEFR)

(15b) A SKIING holiday is for those with more money than sense, giving you the chance to meet a lot of people you could meet at home for nothing. (BNC: K5M 6379)

(16) piti kome krv na slamku

The meaning of the phrase is “stalno i pomalo, uporno i smišljeno mučiti koga, dodijavati komu” (MAT). The English paraphrase would be “bore someone constantly on purpose”. The PUs that correspond to this paraphrase are *Get under somebody’s skin; get into somebody’s hair; bore somebody to death* (HEFR). Again, while Croatians “drink” one’s

patience away, the English have a metaphor which is likely connected to a pest or an insect attacking a person, as they are perceived as extremely annoying.

(17) prevesti koga žednog preko vode

An idiom which means “prevariti, nasamariti” – “to cheat and con someone” is again related to drinking in Croatian, but in English, the equivalent PUs are: *lead somebody up/down the garden path; sell somebody down the river; pull the wool over somebody's eyes, give somebody the runaround, take somebody for a ride* (HEFR). Example sentences:

(18) Nemoj misliti da ćeš ti biti majstorica koja će prevesti žedne preko vode i mene i moju mater. (HFR)

(19) Banks haven't been pulling the wool over people's eyes by not telling them. (BNC: K6G 149)

This is a case of partial equivalence, as can be seen from the examples above. They are used in the same context, but differ immensely in their structure.

(20) ne zna se tko pije, a tko plaća

The meaning of “utter mess, chaos” is well-captured by the English phraseological unit *cannot make heads or tails*. Again, this concept of “chaos” is present in Croatian as a phraseological unit related to drinking. In English, that is not the case:

(20a) Po običaju u tom se balkanskom loncu ne zna tko pije ni tko plaća (HFR).

(20b) In fact the mentality of the hearing is set to define dumbness as belonging to any vocal barrage of which one cannot make heads or tails. (BNC: FTX 870).

(21) piti na kredu

The meaning of this phraseological unit is “to spend more money than one has; become indebted”. The partially equivalent English phrase is *live beyond one's means*. This shows that the concept of “debt” is not linked to “drinking” in English, while it is in Croatian.

(21a) Pisar... je ondje na kredu pio (MAT).



#### 5.4. Cases of equivalence

##### (22) dead drunk

To be *dead drunk* (OID) means to be very drunk. Croatian translation is literal – *mrtav pijan* (HEFR).

##### (23) beer belly

A *beer belly* is an idiom which means “a layer of abdominal fat which is considered to be related to drinking” (RTL). Because beer is consumed in both Croatia and the UK, there are no cultural impediments when it comes to understanding of the idiom. A word-for-word translation is appropriate: *pivski trbuh* (HEFR).

##### (24) zaliti (utopiti) tugu

This idiom, which paraphrased means roughly “to drink in order to forget one’s woes” has an almost exact equivalent in English – *drown one’s sorrows*. See examples:

(24a) Sada mi više ništa ne preostaje nego da idem u krčmu i zalijem tugu (MAT).

(24b) He went to a local pub in the mining village where he was staying to drown his sorrows and found himself sitting next to a stranger who remarked on his dejected demeanour (BNC: A6L 1049).

##### (25) go to one’s head (OID)

In both Croatian and English, when a person drinks too much, the concept of alcohol “striking” a person in the head is present. Croatian has an equivalent expression, *udariti kome u glavu* (piće mi je udarilo u glavu (HEFR)). Still, there is a more expressive phraseological unit in Croatian, *udario koga Vinko Lozić u glavu* (MAT). The expression is based on a pun – *Vinko Lozić* comes from *vinova loza*, grapevine. The expression, while similar, is not equivalent as it carries a connotation of being more than slightly drunk. Have a drop too much would be the more appropriate equivalent in this case.

(26b) Peru je sigurno opet udario Vinko Lozić dok ulicom pjeva besramne pjesme. (MAT)

### 5.5. *Other examples of partial equivalence*

#### (27) Dutch courage

This particular idiom, which stems from national rivalry between the Dutch and the English, has a Croatian partial equivalent – *gutljaj za hrabrost* (HEFR). It is an example of partial equivalence, as the idiom is culture-bound and pejorative. The etymology of the term dates back to the battle of Lowestoft, where the English beat the Dutch and, with contempt, observed that Dutch bravery was alcohol-induced. Without alcohol, they lost the battle. (DIO: 75)

#### (28) one over the eight

One over the eight is a British informal term for “being slightly drunk”. In Croatian, the partial equivalent would be *popiti koju (čašicu) previše*. OID states that the English expression is based on the idea that eight glasses of beer do not cause one to become drunk, and that “the expression was originally armed forces’ slang from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century” (OID: 93).

#### (29) s nogu (popiti što, pojesti što)

This idiom can be paraphrased as “to drink or eat something quickly, while standing up”. It can be used both for the consumption of food and drink.

(29a) Flavijan skoči kao opečen, izvadi iz stola bocu i Pandaković s nogu ispije tri čašice i ode. (HFR)

English has two phraseological units that are partially equivalent: *Have a quick bite* (used for food) or *have a quick one* (drink) and *eat sth in a go*, which is less idiomatic and only used when talking about eating (HEFR).

## 6. Conclusion

The analysis has shown that English has a larger number of idioms, i.e. concepts that relate to drinking. This means that generally in English there is a larger variety of idioms one could use to describe various states of literal drunkenness. Yet, there are more variations of idioms for certain concepts and idioms that ARE present in Croatian (such as *drunk as a...* / *pijan kao...* idiom pair). Furthermore, Croatian, while having less ways to express states of drunkenness, uses the conceptual metaphor of drinking as a source domain in more senses than English (§5.3). However, all the concepts that use a drinking metaphor in Croatian have their equivalents in English, albeit partial. This shows that English has a larger base of drinking-related idioms that are present in the language. Still, Croatian, while having a smaller number of idioms as a whole, makes a greater use of drinking as a conceptual metaphor than English. Croatian uses the drinking metaphor for the concept of annoyance (*piti krv na slamku*), wasting money (*vladati se kao pijani milijunaš*), living in debt (*piti na kreditu*), conning (*prevesti žednog preko vode*), and chaos (*ne zna se tko pije, a tko plaća*), whereas English does not.

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## 8. Appendices

### 8.1. *Appendix 1: Corpus of English idioms and Croatian equivalents*

PU	Relation	Croatian equivalent (paraphrase)
drunk as a lord (skunk) extremely drunk (OID)	Partial equivalence	Pijan kao ... (see §6.1)
dead drunk (OID)	Equivalence	Mrtav pijan
have one too many = Become slightly drunk. We had been out the night before and probably had one too many. (OID)	Partial equivalence	Zagledati dublje u čašicu
bottoms up! Used to express friendly feelings towards one's companions before drinking. = From the looks of you, it seems to me that you might be a big drinker. Bottoms up? (OID)	Partial equivalence	Do dna! / Živio!
drink like a fish = drink excessive amounts of alcohol, especially habitually. (OID)	Partial equivalence	Piti kao spužva (smuk)
drink someone under the table - consume more alcohol than your drinking companion without becoming as drunk (OID)	No equivalence	Popiti više od nekoga
Dutch courage (OID)	Partial equivalence	Gutljaj za hrabrost
one over the eight (OID)	Partial equivalence	Popiti koju viška, previše
have a few (OID)	Equivalence	Popiti koju, nacvrkati se
drink with the flies (OID)	No equivalence	Piti sam
on the house (OID)	Partial equivalence	Kuća časti

under the influence (OID)	Equivalence	Pod utjecajem (alkohola, droga)
give (have) it large = go out and enjoy yourself, typically with drink or drugs (OID)	Partial equivalence	Proveseliti se; kad je bal, nek' je maskenbal
slip someone a Mickey Finn = give someone a drugged or otherwise adulterated drink (OID)	No equivalence	Ubaciti kome drogu u piće
be on it = drink heavily (AusE) (OID)	Partial equivalence	Odati se piću
prop up the bar = spend a considerable time drinking in a pub (OID)	No equivalence	Provoditi vrijeme u kafiću
one for the road = a final drink, especially an alcoholic one, before leaving for home (OID)	Equivalence	Jedna za put / putna
drink yourself silly (OID)	Partial equivalence	Jako se napiti / napiti se kao...
under the table = drunk to the point of unconsciousness (OID)	Partial equivalence	Pasti pod stol
wet your whistle = have a drink (OID)	Partial equivalence	Popiti si
the worse for wear = feeling unwell, esp. as a result of drinking too much alcohol (OID)	No equivalence	Bolestan od pića, mamuran
drown your sorrows (OID)	Equivalence	Utopiti čiju tugu (u alkoholu)
hit the bottle (OID)	Partial equivalence	Odati se piću
hair of the dog (OID)	Partial equivalence	Klin se klinom izbija
sober as a judge (OID)	Partial equivalence	Trijezan kao puška
tight as a tick (OID)	Partial equivalence	Pijan kao ...
walk the chalk (OID)	No equivalence	Pristupiti alkotestu
in your cups (OID)	No equivalence	Biti pijan

off your face (OID)	Partial equivalence	Ne znati za sebe
go to your head (OID)	Equivalence	Udariti kome u glavu (piće)
pissed as a fart (OID)	Partial equivalence	Pijan kao (guzica)
rolling drunk (OID)	Partial equivalence	Mrtav pijan / pijan kao...
three sheets to the wind	No equivalence / Partial	Jako pijan
meat and drink to someone (CBD)	Partial equivalence	Duhovna (duševna) hrana
on the skid row (CBD)	Partial equivalence	Na dnu
fall off the wagon (CBD)	Partial equivalence	Ostaviti se pića
down the hatch (CBD)	Partial equivalence	Iskapiti, ispiti do dna
you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink (CBD)	Equivalence	Možeš konja dovesti do vode, ali ne ga i natjerati da pije.
beer belly (gut) (RTL)	Equivalence	Pivski trbuh
beer goggles (RTL)	No equivalence	Pivske naočale
chain drink (RTL)	Partial equivalence	Piti jednu za drugom
dry drunk (RTL)	No equivalence	Osoba koja je prestala piti, ali se i dalje ponaša tako
feel no pain (RTL)	No equivalence	Umrtniti se od alkohola
happy hour (RTL)	No equivalence	'happy hour', kratkotrajno sniženje
horse piss (cheap alcoholic drink) (RTL)	Partial equivalence	Pišalina
knock back = (RTL)	No equivalence	Opustiti se uz piće
a long drink of water = a thin tall person (RTL)	No equivalence	Visok, mršav čovjek
A pick-me-up (RTL)	No equivalence	Piće konzumacijom kojeg se želi postići bolje raspoloženje
pub crawl (RTL)	No equivalence	Pijenje od kafića do kafića
storm in a teacup (RTL)	Equivalence	Bura u čaši vode
Go to one's head (RTL)	Equivalence	Udariti u glavu (piće)
Tired and emotional (RTL)	No equivalence	Eufemizam: biti pijan



## 8.2. Appendix 2: Corpus of Croatian idioms and their English equivalents

PU	Relation	English equivalent
ne zna se ni tko pije ni tko plaća (HJP)	Partial equivalence	be at sea
ta ti ne pije /drži vode kod mene (HJP)	equivalence	Sth does not hold water
biti lud (pijan) od reće = sav sretan, pun sreće, izvan sebe od sreće - "Čudno izgledaš, Mirko. Nisi valjda malo popio? - Nisam popio, ali sam pijan od sreće: Verica me voli!" (HFR)	Partial equivalence	Bursting (mad) with joy
ne zna se tko pije, a tko plaća - stanje je nesređeno, potpuni je nered (zbrka, rasulo) " Po običaju u tom se balkanskom loncu ne zna tko pije ni tko plaća." (HFR)	Partial equivalence	Cannot make heads or tails (of a situation)
pijan kao čep / bačva / duga : jako (potpuno) pijan ...jer će ovaj ravno iz bolnice u zatvor (...), između ostalog I zato što je vrli vozač bio pijan kao čep kad su se zabili pod šleper. NB. see paper (HFR)	Partial equivalence	Drunk as a ... / drink like a fish
vladati se (trošiti) kao pijani milijunaš - nemilice trošiti, rastrošno (rasipno) živjeti, biti rasipan (rastrošan) - Misliš li da tvom ocu pada novac s neba, pa trošiš kao pijani milijunaš. (HFR)	Partial equivalence	More money than sense; throw money around
pijan kao majka - potpuno pijan,	Partial equivalence	Drunk as a ...

pijan do besvijesti - Naravno da je bio crven u licu i pijan ko majka. (HFR)		
popiti / piti gorku čašu - podnijeti / podnositi teške trenutke, pretrpjeti nedaće, muke, divjeti veliko iskušenje - Približavala se kući svojih roditelja. znala je da će još jednom morati ispiti gorku čašu kad se suoči s očevim pijanstvom. (HFR)	Partial equivalence	Swallow a bitter pill
prelila se čaša (HFR)	equivalence	The cup has overflowed
prevesti žednog preko vode - prevariti koga, namagarčiti, napraviti budalu od koga - "nemoj misliti da ćeš ti biti majstorica koja će prevesti Žedne preko vode i mene i moju mater. (HFR)	Partial equivalence	Lead sb up/down the garden path; sell sb down the river; pull the wool over sb's eyes, give sb the runaround, take sb for a ride
s nogu (popiti što, pojesti što) - na brzinu stoječke - "Flavijan skoči kao opečen, izvadi iz stola bocu i Pandaković s nogu ispije tri čašice i ode. (HFR)	Partial equivalence	Have a quick bite (one); eat sth in a go
biti jak na piću - podnositi mnogo alkohola. "Dandiljani su vam, gospodo moja, jaki na piću." (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Handle one's drink
biti pri piću - biti pripit. "Sav zadivljao, čupav I očito pri piću, lako se opiti." (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Get tipsy
piće popilo komu pamet - biti/postati umno nesposoban, lud ili šašav. "Tuče ženu i djecu, piće mu popilo pamet, pa ne zna što radi. (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Off one's rocker
uhvatilo koga piće - naglo se opiti,	Partial equivalence	Get tipsy; sth went to sb's

biti pijan. "Ja vidjeh da ga uhvatilo piće, pa se pobjah da ne sleti pod kola." (MAT)		head
biti pijan kao lojtra/ bačva, batina, čep, čuskija, drvo, duga, klen, lijevča, majka, zemlja, metla, panj, sjekira, smuk, svinja "drunk as a lord, three sheets to the wind" (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Drunk as a lord/skunk
napiti se kao marva, spužva, stoka, vreća, zemlja (MAT)	Partial equivalence	See above
napiti se čijeg znoja - živjeti od čijeg rada (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Mooch off of sb; live off the back of sb
trešten pijan - potpuno pijan, naljoskan "Zatekao je Pišta Gavru pred kućom kako se drži ne kao pijan plot, nego trešten pijan za plot i smije se kao vepar." (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Dead drunk
Zaliti (utopiti) tugu - ugušiti žalost pićem "Sada mi više ništa ne preostaje nego da idem u krčmu i zalijem tugu." (MAT)	Equivalence	Drown one's sorrows
nakititi se vinca / vina (vinom) - biti pijan, opiti se. "...učinilo mu se, kao da se vinca nakitio, zaigralo mu srce, pljesnuo u dlanove..." (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Have a drop too much, Have one too many
udario koga Vinko Lozić u glavu - biti pijan, opiti se "Peru je sigurno opet udario Vinko Lozić dok ulicom pjeva besramne pjesme." (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Have one too many, Have a drop too much
krstiti, pokrstiti vino - miješati vino s vodom "Svi oni koji krste vino bit će kažnjeni, glasio je propis." (MAT)	No equivalence	To mix wine with water
izvrnuti čašu - ispiti do dna, iskapiti	Partial equivalence	Bottoms up!; look at the

"Drugi su pili ponuđenu rakiju polako na dva na tri puta, on je svaki put izvrnuo čašu." (MAT)		bottom of the bottle
ispiti čaši dance - ispiti, isprazniti do posljednje kapi "Tjerali su ga da ispije čaši dance iako on više nije mogao". (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Drink to the last drop
pogledati čaši u dno - ispiti sve do dna "Pogledavši čaši u dno, počeo se rkreveljiti" (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Bottoms up;
prijatelj čaše - osoba koja rado pije alkoholna pića "Ne čudim se što je postao alkoholičar, od mladosti ga znam kao prijatelja čaše." (MAT)	No equivalence	A drunkard, a wino
iskapiti na dušak - ispiti bez predaha "Kamenski ispije na dušak čašu burgunjca..." (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Drink at once, glug, chug; drink sth down in one, drink sth in one go
piti na kredit = živjeti na kredit/dug "Pisar... je ondje na kreditu pio." (MAT)	Partial Equivalence	Live beyond one's means
piti / sisati kome krv na slamku - stalno i pomalo, uporno i smišljeno mučiti koga, dodijavati komu - "Dosta su na u bivšem svijetu otuđenog rada pili krv na slamku." get under someone's skin, be a pain in the neck/arse (MAT)	Partial equivalence	Get under sb's skin, get into sb's hair, bore sb to death
gutljaj za hrabrost, hrabrost iz čašice (HEFR)	Partial equivalence	Dutch courage
ostaviti piće (HEFR)	Partial equivalence	Be on the wagon
čaše sušiti - piti mnogo alkohola (HEFR)	Partial equivalence	Hit the bottle
zaviriti/zavirivati dublje/duboko u	Partial equivalence	Hit the bottle

času - piti malo više, opijati se, opiti se "Ljutila se žena jer je Mata opet dublje zavirio u času". (HEFR)		
vinski brat - pijanica, čovjek sklon piću (HEFR)	No equivalence	A drunkard